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April 16, 1976

Nortell Laboratories, Inc.  
P. O. Box 856  
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

Gentlemen:

We recently completed an exposure test of rainbow trout (Salmo gairdneri) to three concentrations of Agrobacterium radiobacter. Dr. Paul Krumpferman asked me to examine the fish after exposure and report the results to you.

The following table gives the experimental design used:

<u>Bucket #</u>	<u># of Fish</u>	<u>Agrobacterium radiobacter (conc.)</u>
1	20	$5.4 \times 10^6$
2	20	$7.3 \times 10^5$
3	20	$9.7 \times 10^4$

The fish were exposed for four days under fasted, constant temperature (12°C), and static water conditions. After exposure the fish were removed from the bacterial suspensions and returned to individual flowing water tanks. They were observed for an additional five days before the experiment was terminated.

All the fish in each group appeared completely normal throughout the experiment. At termination, five fish from each tank were given complete post-mortem autopsies. All organs were normal as viewed under the binocular dissecting microscope. Particular attention was given to the gills and epidermis but no lesions of any type were seen.

On the basis of my observations of the live fish during the experiment and the autopsied fish at termination, Agrobacterium radiobacter appears to be innocuous to rainbow trout under our experimental conditions.

Sincerely,

*Jerry D. Hendricks*

Jerry D. Hendricks Ph.D.  
Fish Pathologist  
Dept. Food Science & Technology

JDH:pp

cc: Dr. Paul H. Krumpferman  
Professor R. O. Sinnhuber

